

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 RSR-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9629
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5614

EO1677: 11652 GDS
TAGS: CVIS UN VS
SUBJ: REQUEST THAT US REFUSE VISAS TO PRG " OBSERVERS" TO UN

REF: (A) USUN 1181 (B) SAIGON 5512

1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) POLITICAL DIRECTOR KY ON
APR 3 TRANSMITTED TO US GVN REQUEST THAT THE US DENY VISAS TO
PRG OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY INTENDING TO ENTER THE US AS OBSERVERS
AT UN HEADQUARTERS. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN INFORMAL
MEMORANDUM IN WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPLAINS THE REQUEST.

2. " AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE DISPATCH DATELINED 31 MARCH 1973
FROM PARIS REPORTED THAT THE PRG HAD APPOINTED NGUYEN VAN TIEN,
THE FORMER LEADER OF ITS " SPECIAL REPRESENTATION" IN HANOI,
AS ITS PERMANENT OBSERVER TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK.

3. " THIS APPARENTLY FOLLOWED AN UNWARRANTED OFFER MADE BY UN
SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM DURING THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM IN PARIS. AT THAT TIME, HE REFERRED TO
A PRG LIAISON OFFICE TO THE UN.

4. " THE PRG IS NOT A MEMBER OF ANY UN AGENCIES OR ORGANIZATIONS.
THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION WHATSOEVER FOR IT BEING REPRESENTED BY
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A PERMANENT OBSERVER, WHETHER HE BE STATIONED IN NEW YORK OR GENEVA. (A PRECEDENT CAN BE FOUND IN THE CASE OF THE DRG WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN GRANTED THE STATUS OF PERMANENT OBSERVER TO THE UN.)

5. " IN CASE VISA APPLICATIONS ARE FILED FOR THE PRG TO ENTER THE US AS OBSERVERS AT UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK, IT IS STRONGLY URGED THAT THOSE APPLICATIONS BE REJECTED, BECAUSE THE US ADMINISTRATION EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZES ONLY ONE GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIET NAM: IT CANNOT GRANT ENTRY VISAS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF YET ANOTHER GOVERNMENT.

6. " IT IS RECALLED THAT THE US POSITION ON THE PROBLEM WAS UNEQUIVOCALLY STATED BY SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM ROGERS WHO EXPRESSED HIS DISPLEASURE AT MR KURT WALDHEIM' S INITIATIVE DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD MARCH 2, 1973 IN PARIS. THIS WAS REAFFIRMED BY US AMBASSADOR TO THE UN JOHN SCALI DURING A CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR NGUYEN HUU CHI, RVN PERMANENT OBSERVER TO THE UN, MARCH 5, 1973 IN NEW YORK."

7. EMBASSY COMMENT AND ACTION REQUEST: WE WILL PASS ON TO GVN REPORT CONTAINED REF A THAT MATTER IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY SYG (WE NOTE IN THIS REGARD THAT COMMUNIST MEDIA HAVE NOT MENTIONED THIS SUBJECT SO FAR- SEE REF B). FOR THE PRG TO HAVE ANY ACCREDITED STATUS AT THE UN WOULD OF COURSE GREATLY IMPROVE ITS CHANCES OF WINNING WIDER DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION AND WOULD UNDERCUT THE INTERNATIONAL POSITION OF THE GVN. WE THEREFORE URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THE GVN REQUEST.
WHITEHOUSE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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